



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 29, 1999

S. 1349

National Park System New Area Study Act of 2000

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on October 20, 1999*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1349 would have no effect on the federal budget. We estimate that the federal government would spend about \$1 million over the next three years to carry out the studies required by the legislation, but appropriations for this purpose are already authorized under existing law. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1349 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The National Park System New Area Study Act requires the National Park Service (NPS) to submit a list of potential park areas to the Congress each year. The Congress then chooses the areas to be studied by enacting legislation. That act authorizes the appropriation of \$2 million annually for conducting studies of the approved areas.

S. 1349 lists 12 areas to be studied under the methodology set forth in current law. The NPS would have three years to determine the national significance of these areas and the feasibility of making them units of the National Park System. The bill also would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for the studies. Because appropriations for this purpose are already authorized, CBO estimates that carrying out the studies would have no additional impact on the federal budget.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.